

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated August 12, 2002, Applicant hereby elects Group IC, drawn to polynucleotides encoding human persephin polypeptides, vectors, and associated host cells. In order to satisfy the Examiner's further restriction of the claims as indicated in the communication of 3/19/03, Applicant hereby elects SEQ ID NO:203, with traverse. That sequence is representative of the genus of sequences claimed. The claims have been amended to remove references to non-human sequences and duplicative sequences, as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the claims of the non-elected groups in another application. The claim amendments above are believed to address all issues raised in the communications of 8/12/2002 and 3/19/2003 as follows.

Claim 10 recites only SEQ ID NO:223, which is the cys to cys region of the human persephin polypeptide sequence. SEQ ID NO:221, as recited in claim 28, is the 96 amino acid mature human persephin polypeptide sequence, of which residues 6-94 correspond to SEQ ID NO:223. SEQ ID NO:199 and SEQ ID NO:201 (differing only at position 180), as recited in claim 12, both encode the cys to cys region of persephin, i.e., SEQ ID NO:223. SEQ ID NO:203 and 205 (differing only at positions 30 and 360), as recited in claim 15, are examples of human pre-pro persephin, and nucleotides 180-471 of those sequences correspond to SEQ ID NO:199 and 201 respectively. SEQ ID NO:213 and 215, as recited in claim 15, correspond to nucleotides 1-180 of SEQ ID NO:203 and 205 respectively. All other references to SEQ ID Nos have been eliminated as requested by the Examiner for convenience in examination. Thus, the claims as currently amended recite nucleic acid sequences (SEQ ID Nos:199 and 201) that encode an amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:223), and nucleic acid sequences (SEQ ID Nos:203 and 205) encoding an amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:221) comprising SEQ ID NO:223. All of the sequences recited in the claims are human persephin sequences. It is believed that this response is complete, as the claims contain only sequences that are directly related to each other, as described above, such that searching is minimized for the convenience of the Examiner, as requested.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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